LARRY HOWARD AND OLIVER STONE 10/24/91

Larry Howard phoned me last night to ask me to sell him a copy of Oliver Stone's script.

I acknowledged that I have one and I told him that first of all, if I could let him have it, he'd not have to pay me for it, but that I could not let him have it. I explained that I'd gotten a threatening letter from Stone's lawyers. (I did not think at the time of what just occured to me, that this might have been a ploy to entrap me for some Stone use.)

I asked him why he did not get one from Stone since he was working for him. Howard acknowledged this. He also said Stone refused even to let him see a script.

I needled him a little about the counter-productivity of all the many conspiracy theories that were not proven, not provable and almost all not even tenable, and he responded in terms of Ricky White, insisting that White had told the truth. He claims to now have six confirming affidavits. I laughed at that and told him that he had not even done the basic checking on White's concoction. I mentioned then only that the Whites and Tippits did not live on the same street, as Ricky had said. As we talked I teased him a little about Ricky's story of the Tippit killing being plagiarized from a novel. He response was that Ricky did make a few little mistakes but that the story was basically true, witness those affidavits he said he had, of people who knew Roscoe then.

I gave him a few gruesome details from Garrison's book, of deliberate lies, and deprecated Marrs' compendium of all the nutty theories. He volunteered that he had paid Marrs to write that book. He also admitted that it has "a few mistakes." At "few" I laughed.

He also volunteered that having anything to do with Joe West was a mistake.

I did not prolong the conversation and I made no effort to pump him. There was something on the MacNeil-Lehrer report I did not want to miss. He called at about 7:30 and I did miss it.

I suppose it is appropriate that Howard, who brags about not having read any book on the JFK assassination, paid Marrs, who knows nothing at all about the established fact, to write a book about the theories, without regard to reality or established fact.

It also seems appropriate that these would be among Stone's experts, those he refers to as recognized scholars.

I wonder now what impelled Howard to wait so long in trying to get a copy of the script. The movie is being edited and is due for release in two months. It is seven months since Stone started shooting the movie in Dallas, longer since he hired Howard at al for $80,000. That is what got Ricky White to Stone et al.